scheme has been approved of by the Travancore Government or whether there is really any important point raised by them against the scheme?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There is no point against the scheme. We have not received any information from the Travancore Government except this informal talk.

Grant of leave to Civil Surgeons.

228. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) why both the Civil Surgeons with European qualifications in the General Hospital at Ernakulam were granted leave at the same time and for what purpose is leave given to each;

(2) who is doing their work;

(3) who are the Assistant Surgeons with European qualifications in the Service of the State now and why were they not appointed to fill up the two leave vacancies;

(4) why is this violation of the Proceedings of the Government of Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharia that in the General and Civil Hospitals Civil Surgeons with European qualifications are essential for the discharge of the proper duties of the Hospitals;

(5) for what purposes was Dr. T. Verghese given an extension of leave?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) Both the Civil Surgeons applied for leave to go abroad for higher medical studies.

(2) Their work has been divided amongst the following officers:—

(i) Assistant Surgeon K. Rama Wariar }
(ii) Assistant Surgeon M. Joseph Ittoop } Dr. Puduval's.
(iii) Additional Assistant Surgeon K. Achyuta Marar }
(iv) Sub-Assistant Surgeon T. Koshy Mathew } Dr. Thariyan's.

(3) Assistant Surgeons Mrs. Kohlhoff, Miss. G. M. D'Souza, Mr. C. L. Joseph and Mr. A. Babu Rao. Of these, Mrs. Kohlhoff was promoted to act as Civil Surgeon, II Grade, vice Dr. Puduval. As for the other vacancy, none of the other Assistant Surgeons possessed the requisite qualifications for the work which was performed by Dr. T. Verghese whose appointment was a special one.

(4) There was no Proceedings of the Government in the terms referred to.

(5) Vide answer (1) above.

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Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It is seen from the Diwan's Proceedings, C. No. 2225/1095, dated 20th January 1920, that Civil Surgeons with European qualifications will be recruited mainly.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The Hon'ble Member has not correctly read that Proceedings.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Member for Medicine kindly read the Proceedings correctly? I am reading from the answer given.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I have not got the whole Proceedings with me. The matter pertinent to the question is—the wording of the Proceedings—'may be if not exclusively'.

President.—That does not tie our hands with regard to the appointment of Civil Surgeons.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I read only 'mainly'.

My point is there were two persons available for the appointment with European qualifications when the vacancy arose, Messrs. C. L. Joseph and Babu Rao.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The answer already given to the question gives the reasons why they were not taken. The Hon'ble Member's attention is directed to answer to sub-division (3). One of the vacancies was filled up, and as for the other, reasons have been given why it was not filled up by men with European qualifications.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Am I to understand that Messrs. Babu Rao and Joseph are not competent to do the work done by Messrs. Achyuta Marar and Koshy Mathew?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That question does not lie, Sir.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I say it lies. It is not for the Government Member to say that the question does not lie.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The answer is there. There was a vacancy for which a lady doctor has already been appointed.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—But then there was another vacancy.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—None of the other Assistant Surgeons possessed the requisite qualifications for the work which was performed by Dr. T. Verghese whose appointment was a special one.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Now that work is done by Messrs. Achyuta Marar and Koshy Mathew. Am I to understand that that work cannot be done by those two Assistant Surgeons with European qualifications?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

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